

# THE HAWK EYE

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## Airport board recommends staying with Air Choice One

By WILLIAM SMITH [wsmith@thehawkeye.com](mailto:wsmith@thehawkeye.com) Oct 17, 2015

It looks like Air Choice One will be sticking around Burlington for at least another four years.

At their monthly board meeting Friday morning, the Southeast Iowa Regional Airport Authority Board recommended the U.S. Department of Transportation award the federal subsidy for commercial air service out of the Burlington Municipal Airport to the current carrier, Air Choice One.

"We selected Air Choice One because they've provided great service to us over the last year six years, and they're a dual hub into Chicago and St. Louis," said Mary Beard, director of the Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.

The board also recommended Air Choice One increase the number of weekly flights from 24 to 30, reiterating a proposal Air Choice One itself brought to the board at last month's meeting. Because those flights are funded through federal dollars, however, Beard believes the U.S. DOT will keep the plan at 24 flights. She expects to receive the final decision from the DOT by the end of November.

The current proposal from Air Choice One would use a nine-passenger Cessna Grand Caravan with two round trips each weekday and one each weekend to both Lambert-St. Louis International and Chicago O'Hare.

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